



March & April 2024

EOLAS



Seachtain

na Gaeilge

Gaeilge (Irish) was to the fore during the month of March. The girls made a special effort to use the Gaeilge they have learnt.

Throughout the two weeks we had a multitude of activities. Here is just a taste of what was on offer to our girls: Radió na Scoile, Guess the Teacher's favourite competition, Treasure Hunts, Spelling Bees, Design a Menu, Tongue-twisters, Inter-corridor speaking competition and of course our annual Céilí in the Community Hall.

Míle buíochas (a thousand thank yous) to Gráinne Iníon Uí Dhonnabháin, Assistant Principal, who coordinated all the activities. "Tír le Teanga, Tír le hAnam" - A country with a language, a country with a soul.



Thank you for your generous contributions to our Sponsored Walk! We've raised approximately €5,300 thanks to your support. This funding will be invested in valuable projects and resources for our pupils. I want to express the school's gratitude to Sergeant James Morrissey and Garda Anthony McSweeney for their invaluable assistance in planning our walk, as well as ensuring the safety of the route and crossings on the day of the event. Their help was instrumental in keeping our pupils safe. We truly appreciate the whole communities support for these events—thank you so much!

A Thuismitheoirí/A Chaomhnóirí,

In this month's Eolas there are some updates and information for the weeks ahead. Thank you for giving your full attention to all the updates and messages we send to you.

Mise, le meas,

Liz Uí Bheinéid

Principal

Scoil Mhuire P.F.A.



The buzz around school leading up to the School Disco was palpable, and the big night did not disappoint, matching the sky-high expectations! Witnessing the girls dance freely with their peers was a sight to behold. For some, this was their inaugural Disco experience, feeling as exhilarating as exploring a new world! A big shoutout to our DJ, Anthony Cotter (assisted by his daughters), who curated a fantastic playlist and generously donated his services, sparking a wave of positivity. The PFA's impeccable organisational skills shone brightly, promising the Disco a spot in the yearly calendar of PFA events.

On Friday 3rd May the whole school community will be going to the cinema. This event is only possible because of the support of the P.F.A.

Looking ahead, the PFA is gearing up for the Summer Fair on Sunday, May 26th, from 1:00 to 4:00 pm. Mark your calendars!

In preparation for the Bottle Tombola stall we will hold a no-uniform day on Friday 17th May (more info to follow). There will be a "Pre-loved uniforms" stall at the Fair. Donations of uniforms in good condition should be brought to the office

Our P.F.A. is reliant on the amazing team of volunteers. If you are interested in joining the dynamic PFA team please reach out at pfaballincollig@gmail.com. They warmly welcome new committee members.

New Secretary

We are delighted to announce the appointment of Sharon Buckley as our new full-time secretary, following the retirement of Mary. Please join us in welcoming Sharon to the Scoil Mhuire Community. We look forward to the skills, enthusiasm, and experience she will bring to our school. Welcome aboard, Sharon!



DATES TO REMEMBER

May 3rd – Whole School Cinema Trip

May 11th (Saturday, 11am): Scoil Mhuire First Holy Communion.

Friday 17th May – No uniform Day for Bottle Tombola

Sunday 26th May – Annual Summer Fair

Other School Closures:

May Bank Holiday: Monday, 6th May and Tuesday 7th

June Bank Holiday: Monday, 3rd and Tuesday, 4th June

Thursday 13th June: Sports Day

End of 2023-'24 School Year: Wednesday, June 26th.

Competition Winners

I am delighted to inform you that our choir has won second prize in the Europe Day Songwriting Competition. The jury was impressed with the lyrics, the girls' enthusiasm and the quality of the performance.

On Thursday 9th May, the whole choir have been invited to attend an event held in UCC. The Choir have been asked to perform live on the day of the event which will have many dignitaries in attendance, including Cork City's Deputy Lord Mayor and some MEPs. Congratulations to the girls and to teachers Sinéad Mhisteil, Muireann Ni Choicláin, Lara Ni Nualláin who run the after-school Choir for girls from 3rd to 6th Class. Thank you also to Máistir Ó hÉigearthaigh for his help with the video that was created for the competition. .



The School Council recently met to discuss several key points for the remainder of the school year.

They are in the process of developing child-friendly versions of the targets for the School Self-Evaluation (SSE), which will be displayed prominently in each classroom.

Discussions also centred on the fair use of playground equipment during breaks, ensuring equal access for all students. The girls proposed that a timetable be drawn up for each class.

May 1st marked the first day of our new initiative "Play in May". The council have various activities that will be organised during lunchtime. The sessions include Lego, Chalk drawing, Reading Stations and more!

Finally, the council discussed plans for transforming the existing pond area into a sensory garden for all our pupils. The girls have committed to conducting research to support this initiative. Tadgh and the SNAs are doing a wonderful job in aiding in the creation of this space.

Thank you to Bean Uí Ullacháin who continues to support the girls in School Council.

Board of Management – Report to Parents

- The Board acknowledged how delighted they were with the findings of the Whole School Evaluation.
- They welcomed Sharon Buckley, the newly appointed secretary of Scoil Mhuire and expressed their gratitude to Mairéad the Rúnaí for her incredible contribution over the last 7 months while we recruited a full time Secretary.
- The Board expressed their gratitude to the wonderful work carried out by the P.F.A. and in particular their organisation of the School Disco.
- They acknowledged the contribution of staff, parents and the Gardaí on the successful Sponsored Walk.